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## **CLAIM AMENDMENTS**

## **IN THE CLAIMS:**

This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listing, of claims in the application or previous response to office action:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for treating an intervertebral disc comprising: independently advancing at least one optic fiber through an access device and into a nucleus of the disc through an access device; and

viewing an interior of the disc using at least one of the optic fibers.

- 2. (Original) The method of claim 1 further comprising advancing an access device into the disc to create a passageway into the disc with the access device.
- 3. (Original) The method of claim 2 where advancing the access device into the disc comprises separating layers of a fibrous outer portion of the disc to create a passageway into the disc with the access device.
  - 4. (Original) The method of claim 2 further comprising; advancing a treatment device through the access device; and activating the treatment device to treat the disc.
- 5. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating the treatment device occurs prior to viewing the interior of the disc.
  - 6. (Cancelled)
- 7. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein said advancing of the at least one optic fiber and viewing the interior of the disc are performed intermittently throughout said method.
- 8. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein advancing the access device comprises inserting a needle into at least a fibrous outer portion of the disc.
  - 9. (Cancelled)

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10. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein the treatment device includes at least one active electrode and a return electrode, wherein activating the treatment device comprises applying a high frequency voltage between the active and return electrodes.

- 11. (Original) The method of claim 10, further comprises using a conductive medium to form a current path between the active and return electrodes.
  - 12. (Cancelled)
- 13. (Original) The method of claim 11, where the conductive medium is the naturally occurring fluid within the disc.
- 14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 4, wherein advancing the treatment device comprises advancing the treatment device into a nucleus pulposus of the disc.
- 15. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating the treatment device comprises ablating tissue within the disc.
- 16. (Original) The method of claim 15, further comprising observing the effect of the ablating of tissue using the optic fiber.
- 17. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein observing the effect comprises measuring a void created by the ablating of tissue.
- 18. (Original) The method of claim 16, wherein observing the effect comprises observing an outer portion of the disc.
- 19. (Original) The method of claim 4, wherein activating the treatment device comprises coagulating tissue within the disc.
- 20. (Original) The method of claim 19, further comprising observing the effect of the coagulating of tissue using the optic fiber.
- 21. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein observing the effect comprises measuring shrinkage of tissue resulting from the coagulating of tissue.
- 22. (Original) The method of claim 20, wherein observing the effect comprises observing an outer portion of the disc.

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23. (Original) The method of claim 4, further comprising performing non-invasive imaging prior to or during activating the treatment device.

- 24. (Cancelled)
- 25. (Original) The method of claim 1, where advancing the at least one optic fiber into the nucleus of the disc via the access device is performed during an open surgical procedure.
- 26. (Original) The method of claim 1, where advancing the at least one optic fiber into the nucleus of the disc via the access device is performed during a percutaneous surgical procedure.